

COMMON SENSEm the HOME EDITED by MARION HARLAND



IS ONLY THE BRIDEGROOM..

it will come with more weight be-cause I understand you have children of your own. Here is the trouble I am in. My only son is engaged to be married. Of course, it was

good deal of a blow to give him up, but the girl is nice and sweet and I always got along pleasantly with her until lately. The marriage is to take place soon, and tt doesn't seem fair to me that I shouldn't have anything to say about how it is to be managed.

"To do the girl justice, I think it is more her mother's fault than it is hers, for she much in love, and anything that Tommy son-or I want would probably 'go ' with her. But it all is in her mother's hands, and I am just sick about it. To begin with, Tom wanted a small house wedding. Instead of that there is to be wedding in church. Then he thought might have his pastor take part-we are Methodists-but Ethel's family are all Baptists and they don't want a minlater of any other church. The only relief about that is that if they had two ministers there would be two fees to pay, and bings are bad enough as they are, for I and the bridegroom is expected to give ties and gloves and a souvenir to the ush-

as to his best man. "It might be all right if Tom were a rich man or a rich man's son but he in't. His father and I are comfortably off, but we have to work hard and live earefully, and Tom is just on a salary and not a big one at that. He is in the line of promotion and will be better off after a while, but now here are all these expenses thrust upon him against his will.

ers_there will be four of them-as well

He doesn't want a church wedding. When I said to him the other day that I thought he ought to make a stand against It and have things his own way, he shook his head and said, 'You don't understand, mother. I have nothing to say about anything. I am only the bridegroom.' It just made my heart ache to hear him. You see, he's all the boy I have, and his elsters are years younger, and somehow Tom and I have always been companions, and I know how he has been saving money, and to see it go in this way makes me sick.

So that is why I want to know what you think about it all. Is this the way it always is when a man is married? Docen't he have anything to say about it? When I was married I am sure it wasn't like this, but then we lived in the country and had a quiet wedding with no fuss and feathers about it, so I have no way of knowing if it is all right for Tom to have to pay for so much ties and gloves and presents for the ushers, flowers for the bridesmaids, and a fee for the minister and I don't know what besides. Please let me hear from you as soon as possible.

"DISTRESSED." I wish I could shed a ray of comfort on your path, but I am afraid you and your Tom will just have to bear the expense and trials as best you can. He was right when he told you he had nothing to say about anything, since he is only the bridegroom. Many another man has felt the same thing, even if he did not say it. The wedding is the affair of the bride. Some persons say that it is the last time

she will ever have her own way and that she should be allowed free swing for once -some one told me that it was on the

principle that a man about to be hanged was permitted to have anything he wanted to eat for his last breakfast. I wouldn't put it like that, yet it is certainly about the most important day in a girl's life and it is only natural that she should wish to have it to suit her fancy. She never expects to get married again, no matter how life may turn out afterward, and she has usually dreamed just what her wedding shall be like.

More than that, she and her family pay The bridegroom has nothing to do with the arrangements at the church or the house, with the exception of the clergyman's fee. The father of the bride furnishes the refreshments, the flowers for the house or the church, the carriages or motors for conveyance; he pays for the invitation or announcement cards, and upon the bride and her household devolves all the work of getting ready for the great event. The bridegroom supplies the ring, the fee, the gloves and ties, if he has ushers, and also a boutonnière for each man. When you come to figure it up it doesn't seem like such an imposition compared with all the bride has to do, especially if her family follows the custom of furnishing the home of the young couple when they are to go to housekeeping.

At the same time I agree with you in thinking that the man ought to have some word about the management of the wedding, in deciding what shall be place of the ceremony and the like. The fact remains that he does not. Until after marriage he has no say about anything. Even the sliver and the linen he is to use are marked with his wife's maiden name.

"It does seem hard to me that poor Will should have no towels to wipe his face on," a bride to be said to me last "Bo I am working half of my towels with his initials and half with mine. Then he won't feel as if he were just a boarder and had no part in the

I told the story later to the mother of another near bride. She shook her head

"My Mary shall have all her things marked with her maiden name," she said with firmness. "Suppose she should change her mind at the last moment or anything else should occur to break off the match. What would it look like to have her belongings with his name?"

Yes, and if the match were broken off at the last moment how would she feel recollecting the caresses exchanged between her and her erstwhile betrothed. in looking at the entwined initials on the engagement ring he gave her or in considering other details of a like nature? I confess the last argument of the mother did not carry much weight with me.

Two or three young women of my acuaintance who have had silver given them for wedding presents have pleaded with the donors who announced their intentions of bestowing such gifts that the articles should not be marked but sent plain, that they might be engraved after marriage with the girls' new names

"I don't want to go through life using silver marked Thompson when perhaps I shall have had the name Bedell for longer than I ever had the first one," one said to a friend who expressed surprise at her course. "I think it looks absurd to have your silver and linen with your maiden name, as if you weren't really married to the man in whose house you

After all, it devolves upon the bride to say what shall or shall not be done asked. the conduct of the wedding. To my mind if the girl and her lover have talked the thing out together they ought to arrive at some arrangement by which certain expenses that will be hard to bear for

either side should be avoided. Never was there a time when there was so much freedom in the management of marriages as now. A girl can have a church wedding or one at home; she can invite a horde of guests or only the family and intimate friends as seems best to her. Of one thing she may be sure, no couple was ever married yet no matter by what form or method that some one's feelings were not hurt and that some one did not fancy

herself or himself slighted. When I recollect how much trouble I caused innecently and ignorantly at my wedding I shall never feel wounded again at any apparent neglect by a bride and groom," I heard a woman remark not long ago.

It is a pity more persons cannot feel this, but the attitude of many of one's socalled friends seems to be that the chief aim of a bridal pair is to show spite against their circle of acquaintances by omitting some of them from the wedding invitations or announcements. At a time of rush and excitement, when a girl is under a strain of preparation and of new happenings, it is not to be marveled at if she forgets some one who ought to have been remembered; if wedding invitations

O. bother! There's no setting out of it, is there?" he lamented.

There doesn't seem to be unless one elopes, and there are so many disadvantages connected with that, to say nothing of the shade of disgrace that always seems to hang about a runaway match, that no one of common sense would consider it soberly. No, I am afraid we will just have to put up with the trials and tribulations connected with getting married in consideration of the joys and blessings that accompany and flow from it. So I would advise my correspondent to

offer her Tom such consolation as she can and to take the same to herself. After all, he is getting married only onceprobably-certainly not more than once to the same girl-and his mother does not wish any thought of dissatisfaction on her part to mar his happy remembrance of the occasion. I may say in consolation that I have ob-

served that in spite of the worries that often encompass a wedding and wear upon both the bride and the bridegroom, the memory of it is sufficiently pleasant afterwards to blot out the recollections of annoyances. But the one thing that



are overlooked or mislald and the persons she wished especially to invite have no word from her asking them to the church or the house.

"When I get married I'd like to tuck the girl under my arm, take a couple of witnesses, and go to the parson's house to have the knot tied," said a young man. apropos of a big wedding for which preparations were on foot. Who would be the witnesses?" I

My mother and father, of course-and I suppose Nell would want her father and

"How about your sister and brother and her two sisters?" I asked.

is seldom erased is the remembrance of unhappy hard feelings on the part of a member of the family. That darkens the associations of the day and I know of no one who has it in her power to produce more distress of this kind that the mother of the bride or the groom.

I grant that it is hard for the mother of an only son to obliterate herself at the time of his wedding, but it may be salutary for her to cast her thoughts back to the time of her marriage and reflect upon how much share she then granted her husband's mother. These meditations may not be agreeable, but they should be profitable in the patience they inculcate with the thoughtlessness of others.

FAMILY MEALS FOR A WEEK.

SUNDAY. BREAKFAST

Berries. Cereal Deviled kidneys. Quick biscutt. Coffee.

LUNCHEON. Liver pate. Saratoga potatoes Tousted biscutt [left over]. Sifeed oranges.

Iced tea. DINNER. Cream of pea soup

Fricanseed chicken Rice croquettes. Asparagus. cream with raspberries

Coffee. MONDAY. BREAKFAST.

Oranges. Cereal, Bacon. Coffee.

LUNCHEON. Pate of liver alloed and heated in butter Sliced tomatoes. Toasted English muffine

Crackers. Jam.

DINNER. Potato soup. Chicken stew [left over] garnished with fried

Beets with tops. Coffee jelly. Coffee. TUESDAY.

BREAKFAST. Stewed prunes. Cereal. Poached eggs on toast. Graham gems, Coffee.

LUNCHEON. Dried beef crisped in butter. Fried bread. Marmalade. Tea.

> DINNER Chicken soup [left over]. Broiled boefsteak. French fried potatoes. Creamed carrots. Berries and cream

Caffee. WEDNESDAY. BREAKFAST. Berries.

With all my heart I trust you may get your cream separator. If your letter has not appeared in which you asked for it before, you must bear in mind that in the tremendous pressure of letters which come some are bound to be mislaid, and yours may have been among them. I hope you may have better luck now and that the separator may soon be sent to you. It will give me great pleasure to supply your address to any who write

MARION HARLAND'S HELPING

Pieces for Two or Three.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, MOTHER I AM ONLY THE BRIDEGROOM."

HAVE some silk pieces for the lonely woman if you will kindly tell me where to send them. I have enough pieces for two or three if there is more than one who cares for them. I am crocheting rag Pure and the one I have crocheted with the double thread is much finner and I think prettier than the single thread. I extent that they be tried both ways, and then the worker can tell which one she tikes best.

HAC" I do not know who the lonely woman to whom reference is made, but I am Dure the offer of pieces will be received with enthusiasm by more persons than the correspondent has rags to supply The suggestion relative to the crocheted rugs will undoubtedly be of interest to

More Details Wanted. "Here is a well proved way I have

found to get rid of ants after trying many things. Strips of outing flannel are tied ground the legs of tables and chairs and 6 cents' worth of cinnamon did the work all of last summer the fuzz seemed to etain the spice. R.K.

This sounds a little mysterious to me, and I am afraid I must ask for further particulars. Was the cinnamon rubbed on the strips of outing fiannel, and how iong did they have to remain on the fur-liture before the ants were driven away? We have had a good many remedies for ants given to us, but, judging by the perstatency of the plague, there are always ousekeepers glad to know of some new means for banishing them. This seems Imple, but I don't guite understand the nodus operandi. Will R. K. please ex-

Film Actress Her Ambition.

"I want to get in touch with some of notion picture companies in Fiorida. San you give me the address of some of e companies? I do not know to Thom to write or how to secure their cames, so I turn to you in the hope that from you I may obtain the informa-I am anxious to become a movie diress. Can you put me in touch with ome actresses or actors? How should I proceed in order to get into this line of

work? Please give me whatever infor-mation you can. M. L." This query I shall have to refer to some one better informed on the subject of

reply to these questions and tell M. L. what she wishes to know? I have heard that the ranks of the motion picture actors and actresses are crowded now and that every one who has the least inclination for stage work is under the impression that it is an easy thing to qualify as a film star, but of this I know nothing positive. I will give the address of M. L. to any one who can help her in her quest and who will write to me for her name. inclosing stamped and self-addressed

Sends No Address.

The following has been inclosed to me by one of our correspondents, signing herself Mrs. C. A. It came from another correspondent who signed her name, but omitted to give her address.

" I received your offer of hollyhock seed and would greatly appreciate some of Do these flowers bloom the first year? We have a little four room cottage on a large piece of ground and are paying for it on time, so that we cannot afford to buy plants for decorative purposes. I know what honymous make a splendid showing.
"Mas. M. M." know what hollyhocks are and that they

It seems a pity that Mrs. M. M. should fall to get the seed she wishes because of her forgetfulness about giving her address. I trust this may reach her eye and that she may write to Mrs. C. A., whose address she secured through the Corner.

One Egg Mocha Cake. "Here is a good recipe for one egs Mocha cake: One tablespoon of butter, three-quarters of a cup of granulated sugar, one egg, three-quarters of a cup of milk, quarter teaspoon salt, half teaspoon of vanilla extract, one cup of flour. one teaspoon of baking powder, two squares of chocolate, grated, or quarter cup of grated chocolate or cocos. Cream together the butter and sugar; add the beaten yolk of the egg; the milk, sait, and flour with the baking powder, the vanilla and chocolate. Mix well and put in the beaten white of the egg. Divide between two well greased layer cake tins and bake in a moderate oven. The filling, which is made as follows, is uncooked: One cup of pulverized sugar, one tablespoon of butter, half teaspoon of vanilla extract, two teaspoons of cocoa, two tablespoons of strong coffee. Beat

up the powered sugar with the butter. Add the cocoa, vanilla, and coffee, When the cake is cool place between the layers. A nice soft icing is made by beating the white of one egg; add sufficient powdered sugar to make an icing firm enough to spread on the cake.

Besides the thanks for the recipe, I wish to express my gratitude not only for the lucid fashion in which the directions are given but also for the beautiful clear handwriting in which they are sent. Only one who suffers as I do from the propensity of correspondents to write with pencil can understand my grateful appreciation.

Her Neighbors Gossiped.

"In reading the letters on gossip I was especially impressed by what E. V. said in regard to one's neighbors not caring for another neighbor who does not mix in everyday gossip, first about the side which chances to be absent, then about the other side which did the talking the day before. This has always been my own experience. Living for five years before my marriage in the country, then moving suddenly into a community where there was nothing but gossip every day and all the time, I, who would always prefer a good book to conversation, would become so tired of the same things repeated and often enlarged so that one could hardly recognize the first statement that I drew away from it all. In the four different cities in which I have lived since then I have found it ever the same. The neighbor who does not join and enjoy the daily gossip is cared for and consequently is more or less lonely. But speaking of women goselping, I know a man who enjoys nothing more than to start something about some woman. Let a new neighbor move into the vicinity and he will not allow any of his family to have anything to do with her. Maybe for a year every man who goes to the newcomer's is wondered about and remarks are made on his business, etc. Every move is criticized. Don't you think a man can cause more trouble by goesip than a woman, and don't you think it much worse for him to gossip than for a woman to do it?

" J. M. I agree with the writer in thinking that gossip is especially despicable in a man, but I do not think I feel that gossip is as

have found it in those with whom she has been thrown. I believe it would be interesting to know what readers think of this. I do not mean their opinion of gossip, for we talked that over a while ago and it is to that discussion that J. M. refers, but I should like to know if it is the judgment of most of our readers that gossip and unkind gossip are as prevalent as this latest writer feels it is. What do the rest of you think on the matter?

Saving Some More.

"I think you will be interested to know that my little girl received such a nice 'thank you' card from the 7 year old invalid that she sent the paper dolls The card pleased Cathryn so much that she has saved the address and begun to put away more paper dolls for another package to send. C. A. C."

It is delightful to get such a letter as this and to know that the children of our Cornerites are getting the spirit of helpfulness which will make them of comfort and service to others. It aids one to understand the value that there is in suffering when contact with it arouses sympathy and the desire to send cheer and brightness into the lives of those less fortunate than ourselves. It is a lesson one can hardly learn too early, and I am happy to hear of the beginning this little girl has made in the

path of helpfulness. Wants a Violin. "I know of a poor young girl who is anxious for a violin. She can play a little, but has no instrument to practice on. She could get free lessons if she had one. Should any one have an old violin that is no longer needed or that could be lent this girl would be so glad to get it. Her initials are L. B. She is hard of hearing and seems to have a talent for music. I would like to ask some one in the Corner for glasses that are no longer in use. I am not able to buy them for myself. I would also like to correspond with some one. MRS. N. B. If I could judge of the abundance of

musical talent by the requests that come to me for violins I should think the country was overrun with future Paga-Unfortunately many who seek such instruments have merely an inclination and no real ability. I do not know if this is such a case, but I feel sympathy for a child who is afflicted with difficulty of hearing, and although with this defect it is hardly possible that

chance that some one has an old violin to give away and will bestow it upon L. B. I will send her address to any one desiring it and inclosing a stamped and self-addressed envelope with the request and will also supply the address of Mrs.

cian. I print the plea for her on the

Coloring a Chiffon Veil.

" I should like to tell L. M. W. that she can color her silk chiffon veil in the foilowing manner. Take a small amount of the desired color of the tube oil paint which artists use (it is generally 10 cents a tube) and thin it with gasoline, being careful not to leave any undissolved particles. Test the shade with a scrap of similar material and add more paint or more gasoline, according to whether you wish to darken the shade with more paint or lighten it with more gasoline. Artificial flowers, feathers, wings, straw hat braid, etc., may all be dyed successfully in this way, and the color will be even and permanent, if the worker is careful. Select a bright, windy day for the work, do the dipping by an open door, and see that each part dries at the same time. I have often used this method and found it easy and satisfactory. Please tell G. M. N. that I have cured doves wings successfully with just common salt, plentifully used and well rubbed in. then left undisturbed for about a week. Now for my own request. Never before have I asked for anything until I requested a cream separator and then only out of the pressure of a great need, because of feeble health and much work. Won's you print my request? May E. C. asks for cross-stitch patterns. I have several yards of a cross-stitch transfer pattern which she may have for a stamped envelops. It is about two inches wide and quite a pretty pattern. If Mrs. J. M. is not already supplied with pictures I will send her some nice unframed ones. Ruth H. may have some Sunday school papers and lesson picture cards if she will send me her address.

Thank you much for all your kind offers and for the suggestions you give. The friends to whom you refer are already supplied with the articles they needed, bus your offers will undoubtedly be welcomed by others less fortunate.

Cereal.

Bacon and fried tomatoes. Toast. Coffee. LUNCHEON. Beef hash [left over]. Whole wheat biscuit. Cannel peaches. Tea. DINNER. Carrot soup [left over]. Bolled mutton with caper sauce. Young turnips. String beans. Stewed rhubarh. Cake. THURSDAY. BREAKFAST Oranges.

Parsiey omelet. Rolls. Coffee. LUNCHION. Hamburg steak of real. Creamed potatoes. String bean salad [left over]. Crackers.

Cheese. Tea. DINNER. "Scotch broth. siliced mutton warmed over in caper sauce Fried egsplant

> Green pean Taploca pur FRIDA) BREAKFAST Stewed rhubaro.

Panfish. Quick muffins, Coffee. LUNCHEON. Mince of mutton on toast. Salad of green peas [left over].

> DINNER. Cream of pea soup. Baked blueflah Whipped potatoes

Berry shortcake. SATURDAY.

BREAKFAST. Oranges. Cereal Bacon. Milk tonst.

LUNCHEON. Scalloped fish [left over] Popovers. Jam. Tea.

DINNER. Spinach soup [left over]. Baked custards